

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 REYKJA 01173 01 OF 02 271625Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 ERDA-05 AF-10 ARA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-10 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01

PRS-01 OES-07 SS-15 USIA-06 /134 W

-----087729 271759Z /44-40

P 271414Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7581

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 REYKJAVIK 1173

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS NATO, MPOL, IC

SUBJECT: SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS' COMMENTS ON NEUTRON BOMB

REF: REYKJAVIK 1169 (NOTAL)

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. SOME ADDRESSEE POSTS WILL HAVE  
RECEIVED HIGHLIGHTS BY USINFO OF SECRETARY GENERAL  
LUNS' REMARKS AT OPENING SESSION OF ATLANTIC TREATY  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 REYKJA 01173 01 OF 02 271625Z

ASSOCIATION ASSEMBLY IN REYKJAVIK ON AUGUST 26. HOWEVER,  
EMBASSY WISHES TO DRAW PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO FOLLOWING  
PORTION OF LUNS' SPEECH RE NEUTRON BOMB:

QTE I SHOULD LIKE AT THIS STAGE TO SAY A FEW  
WORDS ABOUT AN ISSUE WHICH HAS AROUSED A GOOD DEAL OF  
ATTENTION AND INDEED CONTROVERSY AMONG THE PUBLIC:  
THE NEUTRON WEAPON, OR, MORE ACCURATELY, THE ENHANCED

RADIATION WARHEAD. AS YOU KNOW, PRESIDENT CARTER HAS STILL TO TAKE A DECISION REGARDING THE PRODUCTION OF THIS WEAPON. IF IT IS A POSITIVE ONE, THE QUESTION OF DEPLOYMENT WILL OF COURSE BE A MATTER FOR CONSULTATION WITH ALLIES.

THE PUBLIC IS HIGHLY SENSITIVE TO THE ARRIVAL OF ANY NEW TYPE OF WEAPON, ESPECIALLY A NUCLEAR WEAPON, AND THIS IS A LEGITIMATE SUBJECT FOR THOROUGH PUBLIC DISCUSSION. BUT I REGRET THE DEGREE TO WHICH SOME WESTERN COMMENTATORS HAVE CONDUCTED THE DEBATE ON THE BASIS OF HALF TRUTHS, WHICH IS TO SAY, HALF UN-TRUTHS AND EVEN IGNORANCE. I SHALL THEREFORE TRY TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT.

NATO'S DETERRENCE HAS RELIED ON NUCLEAR AS WELL AS CONVENTIONAL FORCES AND WILL HAVE TO CONTINUE TO DO SO. IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THIS DETERRENCE IS KEPT CREDIBLE IN THE LIGHT OF DEVELOPMENTS BOTH IN THE NUMERICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL STRENGTH OF THE POTENTIAL AGGRESSOR. AND IT IS CONSIDERED THAT THE ENHANCED RADIATION WARHEAD WILL CONTRIBUTE TO MAINTAINING THE CREDIBILITY OF THE DETERRENCE. THIS MEANS THAT THE INTRODUCTION OF THE ENHANCED RADIATION WARHEAD WILL MAKE AGGRESSION LESS LIKELY, AND WILL FURTHER LESSEN THE CHANCE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS BEING USED.

OF COURSE THE AIM OF ALL WEAPONS IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 REYKJA 01173 01 OF 02 271625Z

TO PUT ARMED FORCES OUT OF ACTION. THE MAIN CHARACTERISTIC OF THE ENHANCED RADIATION WARHEAD IS THAT IT CAUSES LESS COLLATERAL DAMAGE THAN OTHER TYPES OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. LET US BE CLEAR WHAT THIS MEANS. THE ENHANCED RADIATION WARHEAD NOT ONLY CAUSES LESS DAMAGE TO PROPERTY--A POINT GENERALLY EMPHASIZED BY WESTERN COMMENTATORS. IT ALSO WOULD MINIMIZE CASUALTIES AMONG POPULATIONS OUTSIDE THE MILITARY TARGET. IN OTHER WORDS THE RISK TO CIVILIANS WOULD BE GREATLY REDUCED--A POINT, SURELY, OF GREAT IMPORTANCE BUT WHICH IS RECEIVING LITTLE RECOGNITION FROM CERTAIN WESTERN COMMENTATORS. THE LEAST THAT CAN BE SAID IS THAT WEAPONS WITH DIMINISHED COLLATERAL EFFECT CAN CERTAINLY NOT BE WORSE THAN OTHER.

THE THIRD ASPECT I WISH TO BRING OUT IS THAT THERE ARE SPECIAL PROCEDURES WITHIN THE ALLIANCE TO CONTROL THE USE OF ALL TYPES OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. A WEAPON EQUIPPED WITH AN ENHANCED RADIATION WARHEAD WOULD BE SUBJECT TO THEM TOO. THESE PROCEDURES ENABLE THE AWESOME IMPLICATIONS OF THE USE OF ANY NUCLEAR WEAPON TO BE FULLY WEIGHED BY ALLIED LEADERS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL. THE CONTROL OF ESCALATION IS, AS YOU

KNOW, ENVISAGED AS PART OF THE NATO STRATEGY OF  
FLEXIBLE RESPONSE AND IS AN IMPORTANT ASPECT OF OUR  
DETERRENCE. IN OTHER WORDS, THE PROCESS OF ESCALATION  
WOULD BE AS CAREFULLY CONTROLLED WITH THE EXISTENCE  
OF THE ENHANCED RADIATION WARHEAD AS WITHOUT IT. UNQTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 REYKJA 01173 02 OF 02 271558Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 ERDA-05 AF-10 ARA-10  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-10 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01  
PRS-01 OES-07 SS-15 USIA-06 /134 W  
-----087594 271800Z /44

P 271414Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7582  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY  
USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 REYKJAVIK 1173

2. COPIES OF FULL TEXT OF LUNS' SPEECH WILL BE  
POUCHED TO ALL ADDRESSEE POSTS. WND UNCLASSIFIED.

3. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. WE UNDERSTAND FROM  
SOURCES AT THE CONFERENCE THAT SOME ATTEMPT WAS MADE  
TO DISSUADE LUNS FROM INCLUDING COMMENTS ON NEUTRON  
BOMB, PRESUMABLY IN ORDER NOT TO INTRODUCE CONTENTIOUS  
ISSUE INTO SESSIONS. SECRETARY GENERAL OBVIOUSLY  
DECIDED TO GO AHEAD WITH HIS PLANNED STATEMENT. END

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 REYKJA 01173 02 OF 02 271558Z

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

BLAKE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SECRETARY GENERAL, SPEECHES, NUCLEAR BOMBS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 27-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977REYKJA01173  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770310-1291  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** REYKJAVIK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770815/aaaaamnt.tel  
**Line Count:** 178  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 6bdddf51-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 REYKJAVIK 1169  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1459500  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS\ COMMENTS ON NEUTRON BOMB  
**TAGS:** MPOL, IC, NATO, (LUNS, JOSEPH M A H)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/6bdddf51-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009